



EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES PROGRAM

# County of Santa Cruz

## HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

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## MINUTES EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION

<b>DATE:</b>	<b>March 15, 2021</b>	<b>TIME:</b>	<b>8:30 AM</b>
<b>PLACE:</b>	Virtual Meeting Used for Social Distancing		

### ITEM:

1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum, Review/Correct Agenda, Minutes– [8:30 am] – February minutes approved.
2. Written Correspondence Report – EMCC letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the need for the radio system infrastructure to be improved, Board of Supervisors approval on February 23<sup>rd</sup> to appoint Kevin Spiegel to the EMCC, Annual Diversion Report to the Board of Supervisors for the March 23<sup>rd</sup> agenda, EMCC Annual Report (2019/2020) to the Board of Supervisors
3. Oral Communications – Dr. Leff – will try to find someone to fill the Commission’s Consumer Representative.
4. COVID-19 Update –
  - a. Update – Dr. Ghilarducci – decline in cases but starting to plateau. County is doing well on vaccinations. Close to 85% of over 75 years old have been vaccinated. 950 doses of the single-dose vaccine have been administered. There was a discussion about which population groups are being targeted with the single-dose vaccine.
  - b. <https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunityDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>
5. Watsonville Hospital – Kevin Spiegel provided an overview. Spiegel’s group was brought in 8 weeks ago to manage the hospital. This could be a temporary situation. Three general surgeons were recently added including a vascular surgeon. The partnership with Kaiser is getting stronger and Kaiser sent two surgeons to work in the OR. Kaiser and Watsonville are working to keep Kaiser patients in county instead of transferring them elsewhere. Spiegel asked for feedback about how Watsonville Hospital is serving community. Brenda –anecdotally the ER is friendly and helpful with prehospital crews. ER staff is well-liked. Former PLN was great at making sure that eTOC was working with ER. Very helpful staff. AMR will be asked for additional feedback. There is construction right now impacting the cardiac cath lab.
6. Debris Flow Update – Last few storms haven’t produced intensity of rain for threshold of debris flow.
7. EMS Administrator Report – EMS was asked by Image Trend (the prehospital care documentation provider) to migrate all old data to a new platform and pay a monthly fee or to move data to County storage. Candidates are being interviewed for the EMS

Coordinator position. This position is long overdue and will ensure that the EMS office is more robust. The EMS office is moving permanently to Scotts Valley in early May. The DOC will also move and could go to the same location. EMS is working with Watsonville and Dominican PLNs to formalize the PLN roles and responsibilities. Santa Cruz Fire was recognized for working on cleaning up the list of old EMS patient care records.

8. Prehospital Advisory Committee – Dave – biggest project on the list is going digital with records including eTOC. Dave is working with Chief Hajduk to connecting LP15s to Image Trend. This will help with report accuracy and workload.
9. ET3 – Mike Esslinger – great progress –Dignity Health urgent care on 41<sup>st</sup> Avenue is the project's identified partner. Next step – getting group together EMS, Dr. Yellin, transportation protocols needed. Santa Cruz County is ahead of most of the groups on this project in California. AMR was thanked for leading this project.
10. Innovator Report – Kay Blackwolf – returning from 3 weeks off. No report.
11. HIE Grant – Celia Barry – The Santa Cruz County project is ahead of the other projects funded by the Emergency Medical Services Authority. The project is now in the phase of measuring success against the grant metrics.
12. Radio System Infrastructure Report – Jason Hajduk – letter being sent to the Board of Supervisors from the EMCC. Same issues identified in 2008 still exist and are being compounded. The radio system needs to be modernized to meet current needs and future demands. The CZU fire highlighted the needs and shortcomings. The old technology also has no ability to expand for fire, law and EMS. Next step need to develop project scope and funding.
13. EMS Chief Recruitment – Jason Hajduk – Scott Vahradian's retirement – Chief Vahradian is retiring and the EMSIA is moving forward to do recruitment. Position will be approved this week and the EMSIA anticipates that the new person will start around May.
14. Items for April 19th zoom meeting
  - a. Innovator, regular reports, COVID, Watsonville Hospital, Radio System Infrastructure Report
15. Adjournment –

Commissioners in attendance:

Marcus Kwan, MD  
Eric Conrad, RN  
Kevin Spiegel

Kent Benedict, MD  
Jason Hajduk  
Arnold Leff, MD

Celia Barry  
Marc Yellin, MD

Commissioners excused:

Dan Quinto  
Chris Jones  
Michael McGannon

County Staff:

Brenda Brenner  
Dave Ghilarducci, MD  
Shelley Huxtable

Guests:

Michael Baulch, LifeFlight  
Paul Angelo  
Chris Stubendorff  
Brad Cramer

Patrick Riley  
Jeff Horner  
Mike Esslinger  
Bill Beighe  
Becky Shoemaker  
Kay Blackwolf  
Jason Vahradian  
Mallory Pickett